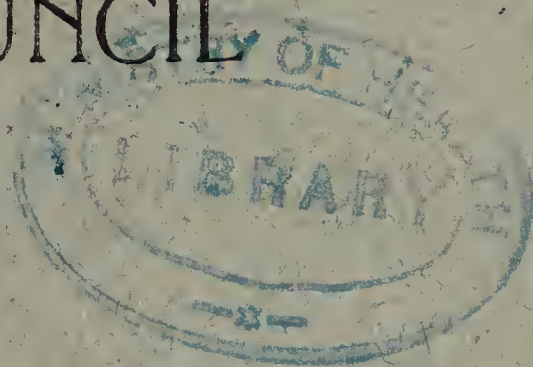


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HORWICH URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR YEAR 1950



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DISTRICT COUNCIL

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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HORWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Dr. J. O. Bennett.

Members—Councillors H. Almond, J. Carr, C.C., H. J. Close, Mrs. M. J. Downes, J. Fairclough, P. Fairclough, W. E. W. Flockton, J.P., J. Hargreaves, L. Rimmer, W. Tomkinson, J.P., W. L. Whitehead.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health:

§ T. Patton Sewell, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary and Meat Inspector:

C. Coop, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary and Meat Inspector:

K. Ratcliffe, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk:

Miss P. Turner.

§ Also Divisional Medical Officer;
Divisional Health Committee No. 11,
Lancashire County Council:

Divisional School Medical Officer;
Lancashire County Council:

Medical Officer of Health;
Borough of Leigh:

Medical Officer of Health;
Urban District of Tyldesley.

Public Health Department,
Public Hall,
Horwich.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Horwich Urban District Council.
Mrs. Downes and Gentlemen,

Once again I have the honour of presenting for your information and consideration the annual report on the health and sanitary circumstances of my home town, the Urban District of Horwich, for the year 1950, together with certain statistical information relevant thereto.

Statistics.

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of the population of the town shows little change to the figure obtained at the 1931 Census.

Less births occurred this year than last, there being a total of 212 births in 1950, whereas there were 244 in 1949. Of the total 1950 births 7 were unfortunately still born as compared with 8 the previous year. When related to the mid-year estimated populations for these two successive years we find that the Live Birth Rate has fallen from 15.3 in 1949 to 13.2 this year, while the Still Birth Rate has remained virtually unchanged. Still Births and certain deaths during the first month of life are of particular interest and present a special challenge to antenatal care and research.

During the year 202 inhabitants died, 4 before reaching their first birthday. I am glad to be able to report, however, that there was no maternal death and that, though there were infant losses, the Infantile Death Rate reached the record low figure of 15 for legitimate births. The Infantile Death Rate for illegitimate births, at 200, looks surprising at first sight by comparison, and especially when it is remembered that the previous year the Rate was nil. On closer examination you will see however, that last year there was no illegitimate death whereas this year, of the five illegitimate live births, one subsequently died. The one death multiplied by 1,000 and divided by 5 (the number of illegitimate live births) results in the figure of 200. The result of a calculation based upon such small factual figures can have little statistical significance but nevertheless cannot be ignored.

The Cancer Death Rate at 2.2 shows little change to the average of 2.1 for the past four years. The Tuberculosis Death Rate at 0.3, on the other hand shows a material increase on the rate of 0.2 which has stood for the preceding three years, but no change on the mean for the years 1945-49.

Slight rearrangement in the reporting of deaths from various diseases has been necessitated by the internationally agreed statistical classification. As previously heart diseases have caused the largest number of deaths in both sexes.

Health Services.

Though none are now directly administered by you I have again included a few brief details of the essential health services available to the district as the details may be useful to you for reference.

Sanitary Circumstances.

The sanitary circumstances have been kept under close review throughout the year and special attention paid to water supplies, houses, other premises, sanitary provision and refuse removal.

Food.

Similarly, food inspection and supervision has been active and has covered a wide range of foods and premises.

Housing.

Housing remains perhaps the greatest present day public health and social problem, the details of which you are closely familiar with.

Infectious Disease.

There has been no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year. Influenza and measles have been prevalent but have called for no special measures. Special measures will have to be taken against whooping cough just as soon as safe efficacious measures are available.

In conclusion I wish to thank you for your continued interest and support, the staff of the Public Health Department for their devotion, help and loyalty and to the other Chief Officials and their respective staffs for their willing and friendly co-operation and assistance.

T. PATTON SEWELL,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	3,254.
Population - Census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	15,680.
„ - 1950 *	...	...	...	...	...	15,510.

(* Registrar General's Mid-Year Estimate - 1950)

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950),
according to Rate Books, 4825

Rateable Value £80,120.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £318.

Social Conditions:—No material change.

Vital Statistics.—

(Rates calculated on a population basis of 15,510)

BIRTHS	Males	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	85	115	200
Illegitimate	2	3	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	87	118	205
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000)...	...	...	13·2.

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate.....	1	6	7
Illegitimate.....	nil	nil	nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1	6	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births) - 33.

DEATHS

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
All causes.....	113	89	202
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000) ...	...	...	13·1
Adjusted Death Rate (per 1,000) ...	...	...	12·7
Maternal Deaths			
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis ...			nil.
Other Maternal causes ...			nil.
Maternal Death Rate (per 1,000 live and still Births)			nil.
Infantile Deaths (under 1 year)			
Legitimate ...	2	1	3
Illegitimate ...	1	nil	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	3	1	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infantile Death Rate

per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	15
per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	200
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	...	20
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ..	...	35
Rate per 1,000 ...	...	2·2
Deaths from Diphtheria (all ages) ...	...	Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	...	Nil
Deaths from Tuberculosis ...	...	5
Rate per 1,000 ...	...	0·3

The following table gives comparable rates for the preceding year 1949, the mean rates for the preceding 5 year period 1945 to 1949 inclusive and the increase or decrease of the 1950 rates on the latter:—

	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate		Infantile Death Rate	Cancer Death Rate	T.B. (Resp.) Death Rate
			Live	All			
1949	15·3	14·1	4·24	4·10	42	2·01	0·19
Mean							
1945-49	16·5	12·4	0·80	0·77	37	1·80	0·30
1950	†13·2	*13·1	Nil	Nil	20	2·2	0·32
Increase or decrease in 1950 on Mean 1945-49							
	—3·3	+0·7	+0·8	+0·77	+17	+0·4	—0·02

* 1949 adjusted death rate (comparability factor 0·97) =
12·7 per 1000

† 1950 Adjusted birth rate (comparability factor 1·01) =
13·3 per 1000

The following table gives the number of deaths from the various diseases during the year 1950 :

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES	113	89
<hr/>		
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5	0
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	0
Syphilitic Diseases ...	0	0
Influenza	1	0
Measles	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0	0
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	0	0
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M) Uterus (F)	0	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	2
Cancer of Breast	0	4
Cancer of all other sites ...	16	5
Diabetes	0	0
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	13	13
Heart Diseases	38	43
Other diseases of Circulatory System	5	2
Bronchitis	11	3
Pneumonia... ..	2	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	0
Appendicitis	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases...	0	0
Nephritis	1	3
Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	0	0
Other Maternal Causes ...	0	0
Premature Birth	0	0
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infant Diseases	0	0
Suicide	0	0
Road Traffic accidents ...	1	0
Other violent causes ...	1	2
All other causes ...	9	8

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1950.

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin. County
Births :	Rates per 1,000 Home Population			
Live Births	15·8	17·6	16·7	17·8
Still „	0·37	0·45	0·38	0·36
Deaths :				
All Causes	11·6	12·3	11·6	11·8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping Cough	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Diphtheria	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Tuberculosis	0·36	0·42	0·33	0·39
Influenza	0·10	0·09	0·10	0·07
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·01
Pneumonia	0·46	0·49	0·45	0·48
Notifications (Corrected) :				
Typhoid fever... ..	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·01
Paratyphoid fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Meningococcal Infection ...	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·02
Scarlet fever	1·50	1·56	1·61	1·23
Whooping Cough	3·60	3·97	3·15	3·21
Diphtheria	0·02	0·03	0·02	0·03
Erysipelas	0·17	0·19	0·16	0·17
Smallpox	0·00	0·00	—	—
Measles... ..	8·39	8·76	8·36	6·57
Pneumonia	0·70	0·77	0·61	0·50
Acute Poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis) Paralytic...	0·13	0·12	0·11	0·08
Non-Paralytic... ..	0·05	0·05	0·06	0·05
Food Poisoning	0·17	0·16	0·14	0·25
Deaths :	Rates per 1,000 Live Births			
All causes under 1 year of age	29·8 (a)	33·8	29·4	26·3
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1·9	2·2	1·6	1·0
Notifications (Corrected) :	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births			
Puerperal fever and pyrexia...	5·18	7·43	4·33	6·03

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

International List No and cause	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per Million women aged 15-44
651 Abortion with Sepsis. ...	0·09	7
650, 652 Other abortion ...	0·05	4
640-649, 670-678 Complication of pregnancy and delivery ...	0·54	
681 Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0·03	
680, 682-689 Other complications of the puerperium ...	0·15	

(a) Per 1,000 related live births

SECTION B.
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance Service.

Horwich Ambulance Station - Tel.: Horwich 5
(Lancs. C.C.).

Care of Children - Children Act 1948.

Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council.

Clinics.

1. Ante-natal.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
Tuesday a.m. (Lancs. C.C.).
2. Artificial Sunlight.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
Monday and Friday a.m. (Lancs. C.C.).
3. Diphtheria Immunisation.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
By appointment. (Lancs. C.C.).
4. Maternity and Child Welfare.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
Wednesday and Thursday p.m. (Lancs. C.C.).
5. Ophthalmic.
School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich.
Wednesday a.m. (Lancs. C.C.).
6. Orthopædic.
School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich.
1st Wednesday each month. (Lancs. C.C.).
7. Orthoptic.
Orthoptic Clinic, 5, Market Place, Leigh.
By appointment (Lancs. C.C.).
8. Post-natal.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
Tuesday a.m. (Lancs. C.C.).
9. School Health and Minor Ailment.
School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich.
Monday and Friday a.m. (Lancs. C.C.).
10. Speech Therapy.
No local facilities.

11. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic.

(i) 34, St. Thomas' Road, Chorley.

(ii) 19/23, Darley Street, Farnworth.

(iii) Civic Centre, Bolton.

By appointment.

(Hospital Board).

12. Venereal Diseases.

(i) Civic Centre, Bolton.

Males and Females - Monday, Wednesday and Friday

9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

2-0 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.

(ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.

Males - Wednesday 2-0 p.m. to 7-0 p.m.

Females - Wednesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.

4-30 p.m. to 7-0 p.m.

(Hospital Board).

Convalescence.

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C.

Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Convalescent Treatment.

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hosiptal Board.

Health Visiting Service.

Two Health Visitors/School Nurses employed in the district by Lancs. C.C.

Home Help Service.

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C.

Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Home Nursing Service.

Two full-time District Nurses employed in the district by Lancs. C.C.

Hospitals.

Bolton Royal Infirmary; Townleys Hospital, Farnworth; Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan; Fall Birch Isolation Hospital, Horwich; and other hospitals situated in the region of the Hospital Board.

Laboratory Facilities.

Regional Hospital Laboratories at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries.

Maternity Homes.

“Haslam,” “Havercroft,” and “Heaton Grange” Maternity Homes, Bolton.

Midwifery Service.

Two full-time domiciliary midwives provided by the Lancs. C.C. practice in the district.

Nursing Homes.

Newlands Nursing Home, Bolton. (Hospital Board).

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council.

Welfare Services.

Under arrangements made by Lancs. C.C.
Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.
Residential accommodation at Atherleigh Grange and
Townleys Hospital Annexe. No hostels.

X-ray Facilities.

Available at Bolton Royal Infirmary and the Wigan Infirmary. Special facilities for chest X-ray at the Hospital Board's Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.—The sources are Moorland, Pumping Station, dis-used mine water, lodge water and springs. Filtration and chlorination schemes are in operation. The Council have acquired the right to take water from Park Lodge and the Bacteriological analysis of the water has proved to be satisfactory.

There are approximately 4783 houses with a population of 15,438 supplied direct from public water mains. Approximately 29 houses on the hillside with a population of 72 rely on a well or spring.

Drainage and Sewerage.—No important extensions made during the year.

Closet Accommodation:—There are 4902 Fresh Water Closets, 878 Waste Water Closets, 54 Pail Closets and 12 Privy Middens now existing in the district. During the year, 24 waste water closets have been converted to fresh water closets.

Public Cleansing.—During the year, 2295 privies, ash-pits and pails, and 227,280 dustbins have been emptied by the Council's workmen, making approximately 4,610 tons of refuse removed.

Dry refuse is collected from dustbins into dustless low loading refuse removal motor vehicles. Earth closets and privies after emptying are cleansed and purified with a disinfectant.

All refuse is conveyed to Red Moss Tip and disposed of by means of Controlled Tipping.

Salvage:—A scheme is in operation for the salvaging of clean waste paper and kitchen waste. The amount of salvaged material sold during the year totalled 133 tons.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area:—The following is a classified statement of the number of inspections and re-inspections made during 1950 :

Houses and other premises	...	...	3201
Dairies, Milkshops and Ice-Cream premises	...	...	106
Smoke	...	...	18
Refuse Collection, Salvage, etc.	...	...	31
Factories with mechanical power	...	...	16
Factories without mechanical power	...	...	68
Infectious Diseases	...	...	31
Market	...	...	53
Food and Food Premises	...	...	242
Water	...	...	3
Shops	...	...	135
Schools	...	...	10

During the year 1806 defects or nuisances were discovered.

The number of defects or nuisances abated was 1953 of which 349 were brought forward from 1949.

The following is a summary of nuisances and defects remedied :-

Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	...	...	147
House roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	179
Repairs to windows	...	...	...	...	...	199
Defective spouting and rain water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	156
New water closets provided and water closets repaired	...	...	...	...	...	65
New dust bins provided	...	...	...	...	...	256
Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	7
House walls re-plastered...	...	...	...	...	...	362
House doors and floors repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Repairs to drains	...	...	...	...	...	319
Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	13
General repairs and nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	185

Factories Act, 1937.—In accordance with the provisions of Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, the Medical Officer of Health is required to report specifically on the administration of matters under Parts 1 and 8 of this Act, which are administered by the District Council.

PART I OF THE ACT.

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	11	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	79	68	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	5	—	—
Total	97	84	—	—

Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	2			
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	5	4	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..					
Total ...	11	10	—	3	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.—There are four outworkers in the district. All have been visited and the premises found satisfactory.

Shops and Offices.—No change.

Camping Sites.—No sites have been used for camping, either civil or military, during the year and no Licence under Section 239 of the Public Health Act 1936 issued.

Smoke Abatement.—Smoke observations have been taken and representation made to firms causing excessive pollution.

In one particular case extensive alterations to the boiler plant have been carried out and the result has been most satisfactory.

Offensive Trades.—No offensive trade is carried on in the district.

Common Lodging Houses.—None registered.

Houses Let in Lodgings.—None Registered.

Swimming Baths and Pools.—There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools in the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.—During the year 6 privately owned houses were found to be bug infested. The houses were disinfested with Zaldecide. (D.D.T.). Before tenants are removed to Council houses their belongings are inspected. All houses visited are examined and general cleanliness insisted upon.

Schools.—There are eleven schools in the district as separate buildings. The general standard of sanitation is fairly satisfactory all having a public water supply and drainage to a public sewer. Dustbins are provided at each school and eight are provided with fresh water closets, the remainder having trough closets.

Arrangements for the handling of meals are not regarded as very satisfactory at two of the schools and in nine schools the drinking facilities could be improved from a hygienic point of view. The yard surface is unsatisfactory at five schools.

During the year the facilities for meals have been improved at one school and the yard surface repaired at three schools.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.—There are no premises at which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Rodent Control.—During the year the Rodent Operator has again been actively engaged surveying the district. All types of properties and land have been inspected and where necessary treatment has been satisfactorily carried out. A maintenance treatment of the sewers has been carried out together with regular treatment of the refuse tip and other Local Authority premises.

Other Sanitary Conditions requiring Attention.—Conversion of waste water closets to water closets.

SECTION D.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—During the year there has been established in the district a pasteurising plant of the holdev type complete with bottle washing and filling facilities. This is the only dairy in the district from which a registered distributor operates. There are two registered distributors operating from outside the town and seventeen distribute from shops.

There are three dealers licenced to sell “Tuberculin Tested,” three to sell “Pasteurised” and seventeen to sell “Sterilised” milk in the district. The remainder of the milk distributors operate from dairy farms which are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Samples have been taken from persons distributing milk with the following results:-

(a) Raw Milk

- (i) Tuberculosis-biological tests - 22 samples, all negative.
- (ii) Biochemical examinations - 23 samples of which 17 proved satisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

(b) “Heat treated” milk.

- (i) Phosphatase test - samples proved satisfactory.
- (ii) Methylene Blue reduction test - samples proved satisfactory.

Ice Cream.—There are 4 premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream and 25 premises registered for the sale of ice cream under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1939.

These premises are regularly inspected and are kept in a satisfactory condition. Out of 11 samples submitted for the Methylene Blue Test two failed to pass the standard but on further sampling these also proved satisfactory.

Food Premises.—All premises including restaurant and hotel kitchens where food is prepared, stored or offered for sale have been inspected and a general satisfactory condition has been maintained. In one or two instances premises have been completely remodelled and a constant hot water supply has been installed in several premises.

Clean Food Campaign.—The model bye-laws for the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air have been adopted.

During visits to food premises the importance of a high standard of hygiene amongst food handlers has been stressed.

Food Poisoning.—During the year no case of food poisoning has been notified.

Food Condemned.—The following meat and other foods were condemned as being unfit for human consumption :-

Bottled fruit	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Cake and Pudding Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	44 lbs.
Cereals	...	...	...	...	...	40 lbs.
Mustard Powder	...	...	...	...	...	24 lbs.
Dates	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Fruit Juice	...	...	...	...	...	20 lbs.
Jam and Marmalade	...	...	...	...	...	82 lbs.
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	29 lbs.
Pickles	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Rabbit	...	...	...	...	...	60 lbs.
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	112 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	194 lbs.
Tinned Ham	..	...	...	...	...	34 lds.
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	...	18 lbs.
Tinned Fish Paste	...	...	...	...	...	1 lb.
Tinned Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	73 lbs.
Tinned Meat	...	...	...	...	...	31 lbs.
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	...	132 lbs.
Tinned Mussels	...	...	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Tinned Rabbit	...	...	...	...	...	7 lbs
Tinned Soup	...	...	...	...	.	78 lbs.

Shell-Fish.—There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the district.

Markets.—There is one covered market in the District open on each Friday.

SECTION E.

HOUSING.

Statistics.—Number of houses erected during the year :-

(i) by the Council	...	...	...	...	74
(ii) by other bodies	..	...	...	...	6
Number of dwelling houses inspected	...	...	...	...	286
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	2395
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	266
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action taken	...	...	...	...	251
Statutory Action taken under the Housing Act 1936	...	...	...	...	9
Statutory Action taken under the Public Health Acts in which formal notice to remedy the defects was served	...	...	...	...	9
Number of houses in which defects were reme- died as a result of formal notice (includes 11 from 1949)	...	...	...	...	24

Conditions.—There has been no material change in the conditions as outlined in last year's report.

A number of families and newly married couples continue to live in rooms or with relatives, and judging from the information given by applicants for a Council house the number continues to increase. Of 854 such applicants 235 are living in rooms as against 222 out of a total of 777 applicants the previous year.

To meet this growing demand the Council has built 74 houses during the year, as against 54 built and tenanted in 1949.

SECTION F.**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

Chicken Pox.—This infectious disease has remained notifiable in the district. 59 cases were notified as against 77 cases last year and 125 cases in 1948.

Diphtheria.—For yet another year the district has remained free from this serious and once prevalent infectious disease.

Dysentery.—No case has been notified.

Acute Infectious Encephalitis.—No case reported.

Erysipelas.—Four cases were notified during the year all of whom were successfully treated at home.

Food Poisoning.—No case of this disease, notifiable under Section 17 of the Food and Drugs Act, was reported.

Malaria.—No case reported.

Measles.—As in previous years measles was the most prevalent of the notifiable infectious diseases but the number of notifications this year at 67 is a considerable decrease on the number occurring in previous years. In 1949 there were 198 cases, in 1948 there were 193 cases and in 1947 there were 144 cases. These figures are of particular interest when it is remembered that measles tends to occur in epidemic form every two years in towns and that the year under review was an epidemic year, as a perusal of figures for other districts will confirm. The disease was again mild in character. No case was admitted to hospital and there were no deaths.

Menningococcal Infection.—No case notified.

Opthalmia Neonatorum.—This eye infection of the new born is notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health of the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority.

Paratyphoid Fever.—No cases.

Pneumonia.—There were 17 cases but no deaths.

Polioencephalitis.—No cases reported.

Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis).—One non-paralytic case which subsequently made a complete recovery.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—No case reported.

Scarlet Fever.—21 cases were notified as against 26 in the previous year. The disease was again mild in character and there were no deaths. Except in exceptional circumstances there now seems little justification for admitting such cases to hospital or even for disinfection of the house.

Smallpox.—No cases or contacts reported.

Tuberculosis.—There were 3 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and one new case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Five deaths occurred.

Typhoid Fever.—No cases.

Whooping Cough.—The comparative freedom from this disease has not been enjoyed this year, 59 cases having been notified. The frequency, severity and debilitating after effects of this disease now make it the most serious of the infectious diseases affecting child life and present a real challenge to preventative measures. Consequently it is sincerely hoped that the results of the recent extensive field research conducted by the Medical Research Council will pave the way to mass immunisation against the disease on lines so successfully conducted against diphtheria.

Cases of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1950.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases Notified											Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
	Total cases at all ages	Age Periods—Years								65 and over	Age un- known		
		0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—				
Smallpox	21	—	2	5	11	2	—	1	—	—	—	15	—
Scarlet Fever.....													
Diphtheria.....													
Typhoid Fever.....													
Paratyphoid Fever.....													
Measles, except German Measles.....	67	2	8	32	23	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough.....	59	4	17	22	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia.....	17	1	4	1	3	1	—	2	1	4	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....													
Cerebro Spinal Fever													
Acute Poliomyelitis (non paralytic).....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis.....													
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica.....													
Dysentery													
Ophthalmia Neonatorum													
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Malaria:—													
Contracted in England and Wales ...													
Abroad													
Food Poisoning	59	1	6	9	35	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox													
Totals...	228	8	38	69	88	11	1	6	3	4	—	17	—

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1950.

Notifications :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Sex.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upw's.	Total
Males						1		1		1		3
Females												nil.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Males												nil.
Females				1								1

Deaths from Tuberculosis :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Males							1	1	1	1	1	5
Females												nil.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Males												nil.
Females												nil.

All fatal cases of tuberculosis were notified.

